

MEETING OF

THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, October 20, 2010, with the following members in attendance:

Robert F. Garey, Chairman	Edwin Kee, Secretary of Agriculture
William Vanderwende, Vice Chairman	Velda Jones-Potter, State Treasurer
Theodore P. Bobola, Jr.	Kevin Coyle representing Collin O'Mara Secretary of DNREC
G. Ray Staats	Michael Valenti representing Steven Ditmer

Absent: William "Chip" Narvel, Jr., and Allen Messick, Jr.

The following staff members were in attendance: Michael McGrath, Howard Mesick, Milton Melendez, Cathy Mesick, and Robin West.

Others in attendance: Michael Parkowski, Esq., Mr. Gavin Jones, Becker Morgan Group, Inc., Mr. Allen Chorman, and Austin Short, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. with prayer.

I. Progress Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that we have a total of 1,034 farms in preservation districts totaling 150,285 acres, with a total of 630 farms under agricultural easements totaling 99,892 acres at a cost of \$174,729,304. For PDR 16, there are a total of 42 farms, comprising 3,871 acres, with a value of \$40,155,000. For PDR 17, there are a total of 13 farms, comprising 963 acres, with a value of \$9,796,000. For the Forestland Preservation Program there are 40 Forestland Preservation Areas comprising 2,878 acres. For the Forestland Preservation Area Easements, there are a total of 9 properties, comprising 872 acres, with a value of \$1,450,804.

II. Forestland Preservation Area:

1. Kent-Del Farms Forestland Preservation Area, ID#F-K-10-08-257-039. After discussion, **Ed Kee moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Kent-Del Farms Forestland Preservation Area, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

III. District Eligibility:

1. Kent-Del Farms District, ID#K-10-08-257. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility the Kent-Del Farms District, seconded by Ed Kee. Motion unanimously approved.**

IV. Expansion Eligibility & Final Approval (Contingent Sale):

1. Hammond Farm LLC Expansion of the Stayton's District, ID#K-10-01-205M. After discussion, **Ed Kee moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Hammond Farm LLC Expansion of the Stayton's District, contingent upon removal of the subdivision plan, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**

2. Hammond-Markowitz Expansion of the Stayton's District, ID#K-10-06-205N. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Hammond-Markowitz Expansion of the Stayton's District, contingent upon sale, seconded by Velda Jones-Potter. Motion unanimously approved.**

V. Expansion Eligibility & Final Approval:

1. Wright/Vincent Expansion #1 of the Hanson District, ID#K-10-07-044H. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Wright/Vincent Expansion #1 of the Hanson District, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**
2. Wright/Vincent Expansion #2 of the Hanson District, ID#K-10-078-044I. After discussion, **Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Wright/Vincent Expansion #2 of the Hanson District, seconded by Ray Staats. Motion unanimously approved.**
3. D & C Jones Expansion of the McColley-Sharp District, ID#S-10-07-111E. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the D & C Jones Expansion of the McColley-Sharp District, seconded by Ed Kee. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. Secretary of Agriculture's Veto – Secretary Ed Kee waived the right of veto for the above Expansions, District and Forestland Preservation Area.

VII. Public Comments – There were no public comments.

VIII. Minutes:

Chairman Garey asked if there were any comments or changes to the September 15, 2010, minutes. Hearing none, the Chairman asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **Ed Kee moved to approve the September minutes, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

Secretary Ed Kee informed the Board that Dr. Michael Valenti is now the State Forester.

IX. Financial Highlights:

Howard Mesick then presented the Financial Statement for the month of September 2010, informing the Foundation Board that we had, as of September 30, 2010, \$284,203.90 in the Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account. We received \$50.66 from rollback taxes, \$350.54 interest income, and \$525.00 from license plates. Expenditures for the month of September totaled \$43,536.84. After discussion, **Ray Staats moved to approve the September 2010 financial statement as presented, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**

Michael McGrath answered the question voiced by Chairman Garey that we have heard nothing from the Auditor's Office concerning the invoice for the Federal audit. Secretary Kee mentioned that a letter was sent stating that we would pay \$20,000.00 for the audit.

X. Executive Session – Mr. Parkowski indicated that there was no need for an executive session.

XI. Other Business:

1. Haden-Gallo District, ID#K-96-03-062-2 – Access Easement.

Michael Parkowski presented the request for the change in location of the access easement on the above property. Mr. Corman and Mr. Garth Jones also enlarged on the presentation. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved that the new easement be substituted for the current easement, seconded by Ed Kee. Motion unanimously approved.**

Mention was made of the Budget Hearing being held in the Tatnall Building, Room 112, starting at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, November 5th.

Michael Parkowski mentioned as a special compliment to the staff and especially to Robin West about the good work that has been done for the Federal appraisals on PDR 15.

XII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on November 17, 2010 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert F. Garey
Chairman